



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

63 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2012

Volume 64 Number 1

www.phil-mont.org

January 2013

Happy 2013 To All!

January means...

Auction Fest!

**Bring stuff to sell! Bring cash to buy!
But bring yourself and have fun!**

Election Results Inside

***Top story last month: the world didn't end on Dec 21
Glad I didn't subscribe to the Mayan pension plan!***

If you missed Straight Key Night on New Year's Eve don't despair! There are monthly CW events for beginners and old pros alike via the SKCC! *See page 4*

<p><i>The Blurb</i> is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. <i>Copying and quoting</i> is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. <i>Subscriptions</i> are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer. Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225 Labels and mailing: KB3IV Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.</p>		<p>Directors:</p> <p>WU3I (14) W3MHP(12) KB3SJS(14) WA3KIO(13) N3QV(13) KB3IV(A)</p>	<p>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Website: Eric N3QV & Andrew KC2PMW For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: KB3IV</p>
		<p>Sunday Morning Net Schedules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net..... at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (±QRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater 	
<p>Committees</p> <p>Audit: NS3K Blurb folding: KB3IV & N3GLU Directory: KB3IV</p>	<p>DX: N3MT Emerg.Coar: K3HWE Field Day: KE3QB Internet: N3QV & KC2PMW Membership: N3XKE</p>	<p>Net Control: KB3IV Publicity: W3RM Program: Club VP Public Service: KE3QB Refreshments: W3AOK Repeater: W3AOK</p>	<p>Scholarship: W3RM Sunshine: N3GLU VE Program: NS3K Welcome: N3UBY Youth: KC2PMW</p>

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the *second* non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at **Roxborough Memorial Hospital**, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at **Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002**
Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmccloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

Pres: KB2ERL Bob Nicotera bnic1903@msn.com
Vice Pres: W3STW Al Tribble wstw@juno.com
Sec: ND3B Rick Devirgiliis nd3b@arrl.net
Treas: W3RM Richard A. Moll roger.mike@verizon.net
Asst. Treas: N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

Well if you're reading this then I guess the Mayan prediction of the end of the calendar and the end of the world was a bit miscalculated. This seems highly unusual since the Mayans were mathematical geniuses. So much for that thought.

Anyway, on to bigger and better things. First, I would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2013. We could all use a better year than what just passed; I know that I for one could. Secondly I would like to give a reminder about our club's first event for the new year and that is the annual Auctionfest. This premier event gives everyone the chance to bid on items that might have been on a want list or to sell some of those classic items you would like someone else to have a chance to experience. Either way it's a fun night so gather up your goods and your money and bring them out to our auction and have a fun night.

Lastly, while you are reading this I will be on my way to Virginia Beach for my annual striper fishing trip, last year was a banner year with my all - time best catch of a 52 incher. I am hoping to top that this year so come out to the meeting have some fun and I'll tell you about the trip.

Till then happy motoring and remember you can trust your car to the man who wears the star!

73, Bob KB2ERL

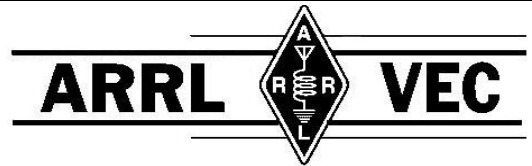
Phil-Mont
Birthdays & Tidbytes

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 03 Jon Verlin - K3VU
- 05 Dorene Weiner (XYL WX3PHI)
- 15 Karen Lenczynski (XYL KA3EIP)
- 23 Susan Garretson - KB3YQM
- 30 Bill Kane - N3OOL

MEMBERSHIP STATS

At press time P.M.R.C. has:
 83 FULL PAID MEMBERS
 10 FAMILY MEMBERS
 3 YOUTH MEMBERS
 1 HONORARY MEMBER



***The Thursday evening VE session is on the
 24th this month.***

As always, many thanks to our VE team!

From the Secretary...

General Membership Meeting 12/12/12

Pres Bob, KB2ERL opened the meeting at 2005 hrs. and reminded us that next month is Auction Fest, and also that there is a Board meeting in January. WU3I said he will be setting up early for the auction so bring your stuff!

Treasurer Dick, W3RM reports that the club finances are sound and spoke briefly about the club's two scholarship programs this year: The Silent Key and Jim Haring, each for \$2000. He reminds us that annual dues bill will be arriving soon as well as the new member directory. Bill, W3AOK reports the repeater is working well and Bucks and Villanova are up and running also. Ed, KB3IV reports that the Net Control schedule is satisfactory but could always use more volunteers. Jim, AB3OM reports the VE team saw 3 candidates attempt 7 elements and 4 succeeded.

VP Al, W3STW read the list of candidates and confirmed the officers as re-elected. Ed, KB3IV our Judge of elections, distributed ballots for selection of directors as 4 were nominated but there were three vacancies. (ND3B vacated his director position to become secretary.)

The Director Election results are:

1st	WU3I	18 votes
2nd	KB3SJS	15 votes
3rd	KB3MIV	10 votes
3rd	K3GBA	10 votes

Since we have a tie for the position of Director, the by-laws state that the members of the board direct the President to appoint one of the winners to fill the vacated term of director held by ND3B. He will be the new secretary.

With club business completed KB3IV commenced an interesting and informative program on SDR (software defined radio) and various internet and smart phone applications.

de Rick, ND3B

DIRECTORY UPDATE

Your 2013 Dues Invoice/Directory Information Sheet will be sent to you in a separate mailing. Please verify the information and return it with your dues & optional P.M.R.C. SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATION to: DICK MOLL P.O. BOX 88 - ABINGTON, PA 19001-0088. Your early reply will save the club additional expenses and will speed-up the publishing of the 2013 PMRC Directory.

So you wanna learn CW...

These guys have a monthly Straight Key night, CW elmers and more!

The ***Straight Key Century Club (SKCC)*** is the fastest growing group of mechanical-key CW operators in the world. First organized in January 2006, our club has grown rapidly to include thousands of members from all corners of the globe. Here's how it works:

- Membership is **free**.
- SKCC is open to any interested licensed radio amateur.
- SKCC numbers are issued for life. Once you get it, it's yours.

Exchange SKCC numbers using a straight key, bug, or side swiper.

Their website is <http://www.skccgroup.com/>

We have enough "youth,"

How about a fountain of "smart"

THIS AND THAT
Miscellaneous Ramblings
 Bob Thomas, W3NE



Professor Bob, W3NE

JULIUS BARNATHAN
A diamond in the rough

Exactly thirty years ago this month I retired from RCA to take a job with Broadcast Operations and Engineering (BO&E) at the ABC Television Network. Julius Barnathan, known to everyone as "Julie" was President of BO&E. He was a larger-than-life dynamic man who led engineers and union operators alike with vigor, an open mind and unbounded but passionate authority. He grew up in the Bronx where his immigrant father supported the family as a street peddler and rug merchant. After serving two years in the Navy Julie attended Brooklyn College, graduated with degrees in mathematics and statistics, then went to Columbia University for an M.A. degree in statistics. He joined ABC in 1954 as a manager in audience research – not bad for a Bronx street kid, but it illustrates a native intelligence that Julie often masked with his earthy approach to business.



Julius "Julie" Barnathan

Julie was "stocky," not too tall but solidly built with ample girth. That lent him a formidable advantage when he wanted to impress a deeply held conviction on someone or chew-out an underperforming subordinate. He thundered toward his target, index finger punching the victim's chest, finally bumping him backward a half-step at a time with his well-developed physique as he expressed himself in explicit terminology. The encounter became known as a Full Barnathan, an event to be avoided if at all possible. By the same token, an offhand compliment from Julie could raise spirits immeasurably.

Julie retained some of the rough edges he acquired growing up. Although he understood and processed arcane technical issues, he had difficulty verbally expressing complex thoughts. His sentences often were disjointed and incomplete, but those who knew him could fill-in the missing parts to make sense of what he meant. An example of that "editing" occurred one morning when Julie called me to his office where he was explaining ABC's policies on HDTV to the head of the Canadian Broadcasting Company. After the meeting, as the Canadian and I headed toward the lobby he asked me in desperation, "What did he say in there?" I translated and he finally understood, albeit bemused by his strange encounter with J.B.

That was the man, but what did Julie accomplish? In a word: *plenty*. He collaborated with Boone Arledge, innovative head of ABC Sports, on enhancements to Monday Night Football and other events pioneered by ABC in the '80s. Under Julie's direction ABC engineers and contractors developed instant replay, designed miniature "Point of View" cameras for unique scenes from unlikely places like skis of downhill racers, cameras remotely controlled through RF links in NASCAR race cars, ultra-long focal length lenses that revealed details from hundreds of yards away, and Super Slow Motion true slow motion HD video recording. He pushed ABC to be one of the first networks to utilize audio and video "synchronizers" that enabled split-screen pictures of local sources alongside satellite feeds from around the world. In another vein he made ABC the first commercial network to fund and broadcast closed captions so hearing-impaired

viewers could follow dialog by means of print captions at the bottom of the screen.

Julie championed start-up enterprises by young entrepreneurs. One was Abekas, founded by three bright engineers who left Ampex after their vision for advanced products were ignored. A manager and I travelled to the Bay Area to visit Abekas and learn about their new device for storing individual television frames (still pictures). Their lab was the dining room of a split-level home in a residential area! We were ushered into the dining room where they had the largest breadboard kluge I had ever seen, assembled on two circuit boards, each about 18"x 24" with haywire everywhere. Despite its appearance, they demonstrated how their device could rapidly store or retrieve a single TV frame by entering an appropriate memory address on a keypad. Video was stored in digital form on portable hard disk drives – a revolutionary concept at the time. Based on our favorable report Julie promised Abekas a substantial minimum purchase of their first production run and gave them advance funds to help get them up and running. The first units were used to record sports team members' pictures so they could be called up later to accompany commentary; many other applications followed. The success of Abekas soared after introduction of that first product due in part to the initial boost Julie had given them.

All the networks in New York fed programs to their affiliates from *Teleport*, a satellite uplink facility on Staten Island. Julie was convinced that it could be accomplished more economically from our own dishes on the roof of our headquarters building at West 66th Street. First, the building structure had to be reinforced to withstand the additional weight of two steerable 11 ft. parabolas. RFI emanating from sources throughout Manhattan was a major problem finally solved by increasing the height of the parapet surrounding the roof and applying RF-absorbing tiles to its inner wall. When the job was completed we had a highly reliable means for program distribution system at far lower cost than the competition.

A few weeks before a scheduled ABC Super Bowl broadcast, Julie called some of us to his office for a presentation by a visitor claiming he had a method to make ordinary TV pictures appear in 3D. The

visitor played a VHS cassette tape of several scenes to demonstrate his results. We wore glasses with gray filters of different densities for right and left eyes, but there was no other apparatus required. His demo tape had scenes with race cars, groups of men running, and various other activities all of which were portrayed with depth and in true color. He had obtained agreement from Coca Cola, principal sponsor of that years' half-time show, to underwrite an act in 3D using his system, which he would produce using what he called "special camera techniques." Coke would distribute the filter-glasses through retail outlets in advance and promote the show with a heavy advertising campaign. The question we had was what was his gimmick to create 3D in scenes where there was none to begin with?

The promoter refused to discuss his technique unless Julie and all the engineers present signed a non-disclosure agreement. Well! That was like waving a red flag in front of Julius Barnathan who never, *ever* signed a non-disclosure agreement with *anyone* because, as he put it, "If I give you my word and you don't believe me, what good is my signature?" We were at a stalemate; the man packed up and left. It wasn't the end of the affair however. ABC attorneys consulted ophthalmologists about the effects on eyes of children if they wore the filter glasses during extended periods of play and were informed vision could be adversely affected, at least temporarily. That was enough for ABC to nix the deal (although NBC did run it at the next Super Bowl). Subsequent research revealed a well-known physiological effect causing simulation of depth when objects are moving but that is beyond the scope of this article except to say constant motion is required to prevent the quasi-3D effect from disappearing.

ABC was purchased in 1985 by Capital Cities under a deal financed with junk bonds by Warren Buffett. Our new owners were regional station operators one-fourth the size of the network. Expected mass layoffs materialized but Julie continued to be a dominant force in the company and throughout broadcasting. Trouble was inevitable, however,

because Julie was a rugged frontiersman compared to the gentrified straight-laced Cap Cities executives. He didn't fit in with their management style, and by 1990 he was forced into retirement, replaced by a clueless former news producer who only understood budgets. Julie operated as a consultant but he had been a heavy smoker and he passed after only a few years.

These recollections represent only a few of my happy associations with Julie Barnathan – a genuine diamond in the rough. Perhaps the best thing I can say about him is that I am sorry I had not joined ABC twenty years sooner!

Have you heard about D-Star?

Philadelphia Digital Radio Assn meets the first non-holiday Monday of each month at the Community Ambulance Assn 1440 East Butler Pike Ambler, Pa. 19002 at 7:00 pm.

The club has two D-star repeaters on the following frequencies: On two meters - 146.61 (-) and on 70 cm 445.18125 (-)

I run a weekly club D-star net on Mondays at 8:00 pm local time on the club 2 meter frequency.

de Jim, NS3K

**If at first you don't succeed ...
*skydiving is not for you!***

Emergency preparedness event:

There will be a multi county/Chester county ARES drill on 28.4 mhz, at 0900 on Sat 1/12/13. W3EOC will be manned by W3EUI as net control. Tune in and perhaps participate!

de W3EUI & W3STW:

Check out this rope for your antenna project –

3/32" Braided Olive Drab - Dacron / Polyester cord

This is a high quality braided polyester cord with a breaking strength of 210 pounds. Proudly Made in the U.S.A.!

This is a gorgeous solid braid perfect for dipole antennas. Very low stretch and strong. Will withstand the weather & sun for 7 to 10 years.

***PRICE \$10.00 PER 100 FEET
SOLD IN 100 FOOT LOTS
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WU3I@ARRL.NET***

PRINTER TONER FOR SAMSUNG CLP 300
AND COMPATIBLES. NOT OEM.
2 BLACK 1 YELLOW 1 MAGENTA. 40.00
SHIPPING INCLUDED

Stephen Hoch WU3I Steve wu3i@arrl.net
CELL 2156056074

**ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE IS NO
MATCH FOR NATURAL STUPIDITY.**

Quips on this page and page 4 de W3NE - Tnx Bob!

January at Phil-Mont

1st Tue New Year's Day
 2nd Wed Board Meeting
 6th Sun W3STW NCS
 9th Wed Membership Meeting
 AuctionFest!
 13th Sun N3OWM NCS
 20st Sun KB3IV NCS
 21st Mon Martin Luther King Day
 24th Thur VE Session
 27th Sun KA3IRJ

Some other January birthdays...Betsy Ross, Paul Revere, Isaac Asimov, Crosby Bonsall, BooBoo Bear, Isaac Newton, Jakob Grimm, Louis Braille, Carl Sandburg, Sherlock Holmes, Elvis Presley, Clyde Robert Bulla, Remy Charlip, Jack London, Rubber Duckie, Horatio Alger, Michael Bond, Muhammad Ali, Ben Franklin, Shari Lewis, A.A. Milne, Raymond Briggs, Paul Cezanne, Brian Wildsmith, Jackson Pollock, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jackie Robinson ... *but most weren't club members!*

Don't forget the ARES net on Sunday nights and the Digital net on Tuesday nights.

First Class Mail

The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club, Inc
 1700 Street Rd. Apt. H3, Warrington PA, 18976

The Blurb